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AN ANALYSIS OF THE CONTINUOUS-SPIN, ISING MODEL

ABSTRACT

The critical behavior of the continuous-spin Ising model is studied by high temperature methods and compared with renormalization group results. The critical exponent inequality $\delta \geq \Delta/(\Delta-\gamma)$ is proven and used to show that $2\Delta < d\nu + \gamma$ requires $\gamma(\delta+1)/(\delta-1) < d\nu$.

AN ANALYSIS OF THE CONTINUOUS-SPIN, ISING MODEL*

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Since the time when the study of relations between the various critical indices was systematized,¹ these indices have been classed into groups. First, I remind you of some notation. If χ is the magnetic susceptibility, M the magnetization, C_H the specific heat at constant magnetic field, and ξ the correlation length, then near the critical point, temperature, $T = T_c$, and magnetic field, $H = 0$, for an Ising model on a d -dimensional, rigid, regular space-lattice we expect, $T > T_c$, $H = 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} \chi &\sim A_+(T-T_c)^{-\nu}, \quad \xi \sim D_+(T-T_c)^{-\nu}, \\ -\frac{\partial^2 \chi}{\partial H^2} &\sim B_+(T-T_c)^{-\gamma-2\Delta}, \quad C_H \sim (T-T_c)^{-\alpha}, \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

$$T = T_c,$$

$$M \sim H^{1/\delta}, \quad \left. \langle \sigma_0 \sigma_{\vec{r}} \rangle \right|_{H=0} \sim r^{-d+2-\eta} \quad (2)$$

where $\left. \langle \sigma_0 \sigma_{\vec{r}} \rangle \right|_{H=0}$ is the spin-spin correlation function between a spin σ at the origin and one at \vec{r} in zero magnetic field.

$$T < T_c, \quad H = 0,$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
\chi &\approx A_-(T_c - T)^{-\gamma'}, \quad \xi \approx D_-(T_c - T)^{-\nu'} \\
-\frac{\partial^2 \chi}{\partial H^2} &\approx B_-(T_c - T)^{-\gamma' - 2\Delta'}, \quad C_H \propto (T_c - T)^{-\alpha'} \\
M &\propto (T_c - T)^\beta.
\end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

In terms of this notation, a selection of the relations between the critical indices (α , γ , δ , etc.) would be:

single temperature region,

$$\alpha' + 2 + \gamma' = 2; \tag{4}$$

critical isotherm plus a single temperature region,

$$\begin{aligned}
\alpha' + \beta(1 + \delta) &= 2, \\
\delta &= \Delta / (\Delta - \gamma);
\end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

two temperature regions

$$\begin{aligned}
\gamma &= \gamma', \quad u = \alpha', \\
\Delta &= \Delta';
\end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

relations involving correlation exponents,

$$\begin{aligned}
\gamma &= (2 - \eta)\nu, \\
\gamma' &= (2 - \eta)\nu';
\end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

and relations involving the spatial dimension or hyperscaling,

$$\begin{aligned}
d\nu &= 2 - \alpha, \\
2 - \eta &= d(\delta - 1) / (\delta + 1), \\
2\Delta &= d\nu + \gamma.
\end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

On the numerical evidence, the hyperscaling relations (8) were the least well supported and those of (6) suffered initially from the weakness of the accuracy in the $T < T_c$ numerical results. Many of these relations have been proven to be rigorous inequalities, e.g.,²⁻⁶

$$\begin{aligned}
\alpha' + 2\beta + \gamma' &\geq 2, & \gamma &\geq (2-\eta)\nu, \\
d\nu + \gamma &\geq 2\Delta, & \delta &\geq \Delta/(\Delta-\gamma), \\
\alpha' + \beta(1+\delta) &\geq 2.
\end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

In order to understand what was going on, and to gain a deeper understanding of these exponent relations, general ideas that related them to scaling properties were put forth.^{7,8} These ideas were further developed and extended by the use of field theoretic methods^{9,10} to yield the renormalization group theory of critical phenomena, which rests on the renormalization group hypothesis^{11,12} and has all the index relations (4-8) as a consequence for $d \leq 4$.

Now the trouble starts when one compares the results of the renormalization group theory of critical phenomena with those of the high-temperature series numerical computations. These high temperature series results yield, for example¹³⁻¹⁵

$$\begin{aligned}
\gamma &= 1.250 \pm 0.003, \\
\nu &= 0.638 \begin{matrix} + 0.002 \\ - 0.001 \end{matrix}, \\
\Delta &= 1.563 \pm 0.003,
\end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

and¹⁶ for the renormalization group equality (8),

$$\begin{aligned}
2\Delta - d\nu - \gamma &= -0.028 \pm 0.003, \quad d = 3, \\
&= -0.302 \pm 0.038, \quad d = 4.
\end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

These results show small but persistent deviations¹⁷ from the expected renormalization group results,^{14,18} in three dimensions,

$$\begin{aligned}
\gamma &= 1.241 \pm 0.004, \quad \nu = 0.630 \pm 0.002, \\
2\Delta - d\nu - \gamma &= 0.
\end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

Other analyses of the high-temperature series coefficients are to be found in this volume.

To study this discrepancy in detail, I prefer to put it in a broader context^{11,12,19} and consider the continuous-spin Ising model which has both the spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ Ising model and Euclidean, Boson, quantum field theory as limiting cases.

The partition function for this model is

$$Z(H) = M^{-1} \int \cdots \int \prod_{\vec{i}=1}^N d\phi_{\vec{i}} \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} v \sum_{\vec{i}=1}^N \left\{ \frac{2d}{q} \sum_{\{\vec{\delta}\}} \frac{(\phi_{\vec{i}} - \phi_{\vec{i}+\vec{\delta}})^2}{a^2} \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + m_0^2 : \phi_{\vec{i}}^2 : + \frac{2}{4!} g_0 : \phi_{\vec{i}}^4 : \right\} + \sum_{\vec{i}} H_{\vec{i}} \phi_{\vec{i}} \right], \quad (13)$$

where a is the lattice spacing, $v \propto a^d$ is the specific volume per lattice site, q is the lattice coordination number, $\{\vec{\delta}\}$ is one-half the set of nearest neighbor sites, and $H_{\vec{i}}$ is the magnetic field at site \vec{i} . This model looks like a lattice-cutoff model field theory. If we perform the usual amplitude (Z_3) and mass renormalizations ($m_0^2 = m^2 + \delta m^2$), then we can rewrite (13) as

$$Z(\tilde{H}) = \tilde{M}^{-1} \int \cdots \int \prod_{\vec{i}=1}^N d\sigma_{\vec{i}} \exp \left[\sum_{\vec{i}} \left\{ K \sum_{\{\vec{\delta}\}} \sigma_{\vec{i}} \sigma_{\vec{i}+\vec{\delta}} \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. - \frac{1}{2} \tilde{g}_0 \sigma_{\vec{i}}^4 - \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\Lambda} \sigma_{\vec{i}}^2 + \tilde{H} \sigma_{\vec{i}} \right\} \right], \quad (14)$$

where the relation between the field theory language of (13) and the statistical mechanical language of (14) is

$$\tilde{g}_0 = g_0 K^2 q^2 a^4 / (96 d^2 v) = g_0 a^{4-d}, \\ \tilde{\Lambda} = qK(2d + m^2 a^2 + \delta m^2 a^2 - \frac{1}{2} C a^2 g_0) / 4d, \\ \tilde{H} = H_1 \left[qKa^2 / (2dZ_3 v) \right]^{1/2}. \quad (15)$$

Note that we have added a free parameter, K , and imposed a normalization condition,

$$\langle \sigma^2 \rangle_{H=K=0} = 1 = \frac{\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx x^2 \exp(-g_0 x^4 - \Lambda x^2)}{\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx \exp(-g_0 x^4 - \Lambda x^2)}, \quad (16)$$

which fixes $\tilde{\Lambda}$ as a function of \tilde{g}_0 . Further note that C is the usual $[\phi^-, \phi^+]$ commutator which diverges as a goes to zero for $d \geq 2$. As usual, the renormalization conditions imposed on the two-point function,

$$\Gamma_R^{(2)}(p, -p) = \left\{ v \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \frac{\partial^2 \ln Z(\tilde{H})}{\partial \tilde{H}_0 \partial \tilde{H}_j} \bigg|_{\tilde{H}=0} \exp[-2\pi i \vec{p} \cdot \vec{j} a] \right\}^{-1} \quad (17)$$

determine the renormalization constants Z_3 and δm^2 . These renormalization conditions are

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_R^{(2)}(p, -p) &\sim m^2 + 4\pi^2 p^2 + \dots, \text{ as } p \rightarrow 0, \\ &= \frac{2dZ_3}{qKa^2} \chi^{-1} (1 + (2\pi)^2 \xi^2 a^2 p^2 + \dots), \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

In terms of

$$\begin{aligned} \chi &= \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} [\langle \tilde{c}_0 \tilde{c}_j \rangle - \langle \tilde{c}_0 \rangle \langle \tilde{c}_j \rangle], \\ \xi^2 &= \frac{\sum_{j=0}^{N-1} j^2 (\langle \tilde{c}_0 \tilde{c}_j \rangle - \langle \tilde{c}_0 \rangle \langle \tilde{c}_j \rangle)}{2dv}, \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

where the expectation values are determined by the partition function (14). These conditions lead to the relations,

$$\begin{aligned} m^2 \xi^2 a^2 &= 1, \\ Z_3 &= (\chi/f^2)(qK/2d). \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

The object to be studied is the dimensionless, renormalized, coupling constant

$$g = g_R m^{d-4} = \frac{2v}{a^d} \frac{\partial^2 K}{\partial \tilde{f}^2} \chi^{-1} (1 - T_c/T)^{1+dv-2\Lambda} \quad (21)$$

This quantity is bounded as $T \rightarrow T_c$ by Schrader's⁴ inequality. If it goes to zero, then hyperscaling fails (8) and the corresponding field theory is trivial.²⁰ If it is finite, then hyperscaling holds.

The conventional wisdom for the behavior of $g(g_0, a)$ is that there is a limiting curve which is smoothly approached as $a \rightarrow 0$. By eq. (20) for a fixed, renormalized mass, this limit is equivalent to $\xi \rightarrow \infty$ with fixed lattice spacing, i.e., the temperature approaches the critical temperature. This limiting curve is conventionally thought to rise monotonically from zero for $g_0 = 0$ to a finite limit g^* for $g_0 = \infty$. Specifically, the renormalization group hypothesis^{11,12,19} is that there exists a unique, non-zero limit as $g_0 \rightarrow \infty$ and $a \rightarrow 0$ independent of the manner of approach. From this hypothesis, as a statistical-mechanical problem corresponds to \tilde{g}_0 fixed, and by eq. (15) $\tilde{g}_0 \propto g_0 a^{4-d}$, we must have $g_c \rightarrow \infty$ as $a \rightarrow 0$ for $d < 4$ and so $g \rightarrow g^*$. As everything is thought to depend on g , we must, based on this hypothesis, get the same result, i.e., universality, for any \tilde{g}_0 -fixed, statistical-mechanical model. The hypothesized smoothness and differentiability of the approach to the limit yields the critical index relations.

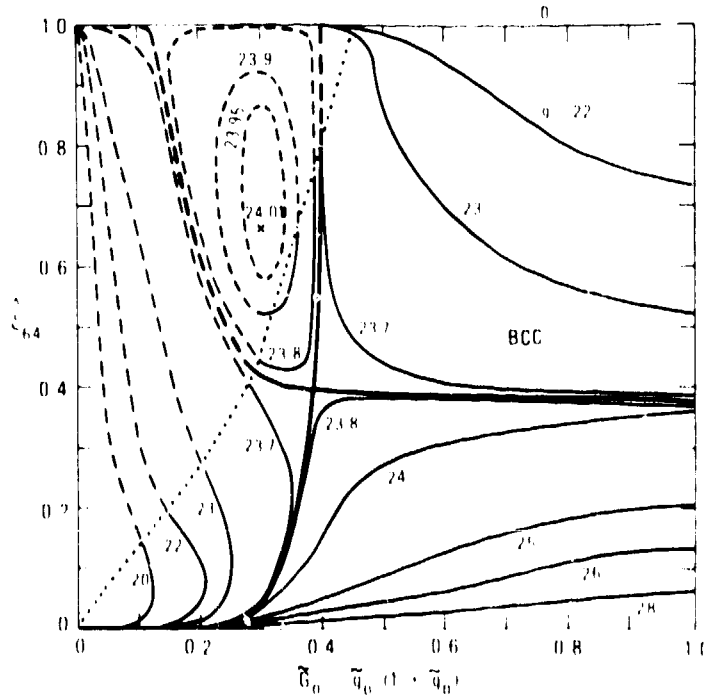


Fig. 1. Contours of the renormalized coupling constant, g , in the ξ_{64}, G_0 plane for the body-centered-cubic lattice. Here $\xi_{64} = \xi^2/(64 + \xi^2)$ and $G_0 = g_0/(1 + g_0)$. The boldface curve represents $g^* = 23.78$.

Baker and Kincaid^{11,19} have made a detailed investigation using high-temperature series methods and concluded on numerical evidence that the renormalization group hypothesis holds for $d = 1, 2$ (known previously²¹) but fails in $d = 3$ and 4 dimensions. The results in three dimensions are particularly interesting as Fig. 1 illustrates. A much richer structure in the g -contour map is found than had been anticipated. The top edge of the figure is a spread-out version of the $g_0 = \infty, a = 0$ point. They¹⁹ found that $g = g^* = 23.78$ alone did not appear to represent this point and that the g^* contour also extended into the interior and possessed a saddle point. We remark in passing that such a saddle point reconciles these numerical results with Schrader's²² rigorous results.

Where can we look, theoretically, for the breakdown of hyper-scaling in three and four dimensions? Looking back at eq. (8) we note that the occurrence of the spatial dimension d appears in association with the relation of a single index such as ν or η for a microscopic property to a thermodynamic index such as α, γ, δ , etc. It is therefore interesting to introduce a thermodynamic coupling constant which replaces the dependence on ϵ^d in (21) by a combination of thermodynamic variables. The most obvious move is to use the terms from Sokal's²³ proof of the Josephson inequality to make the replacement

$$\epsilon^d \rightarrow \left(\frac{\partial \chi}{\partial K} \right)^2 / (C_H \epsilon^2), \quad (22)$$

however, as $C_H \propto \ln(K_c - K)$ for $d = 2$, this replacement would lead to an infinite thermodynamic coupling constant in two dimensions. I prefer to make the replacement

$$\epsilon^d \rightarrow (\epsilon)^{(\delta+1)/(\delta-1)} \quad (23)$$

One finds directly by use of Fisher's³ results

$$\nu \leq (2-\eta)\nu, \quad (2-\eta) \leq d(\delta-1)/(\delta+1) \quad (24)$$

that

$$d\nu \geq \gamma(\delta+1)/(\delta-1) \quad (25)$$

Hence if we select

$$B_T = \frac{\frac{\partial^2 \chi}{\partial H^2}}{\chi^2 \nu^{(\delta+1)/(\delta-1)}} \quad (26)$$

Then, including a dimension and lattice dependent constant, \dots , related³ to the amplitude of the decay of the two-spin, correlation

function with distance for $T = T_c$ in zero magnetic field, we may conclude

$$\Omega g_T \geq g, \quad (T \rightarrow T_c). \quad (27)$$

Since g is bounded from above⁴ and goes to zero if hyperscaling fails, and, as we shall see below, since $A_+ \neq 0$ and $B_+ \neq 0$, g_T is not zero, although it could become infinite, we conclude that it is sufficient for (25) to be a strict inequality for

$$2\Delta < d\nu + \gamma. \quad (28)$$

That is to say, if one of the hyperscaling relations (8) fails [here (28)] then necessarily the others [here we will only see (25)] fail as well. Certainly this result is expected,²⁴ if the non-hyperscaling relations continue to hold. We remark that numerically g_T is finite for the cases tested (e.g., $d = 2, 3, \infty$) within error.

Now, to show that (26) does not go to zero as $T \rightarrow T_c$, consider

$$F(\tau) = \frac{M-\tau}{(1-\tau^2)} = (\gamma-1)\tau + \left(\frac{\gamma^2\chi}{5H^2} + \frac{4}{3}(\gamma-1) \right) \tau^3 + O(\tau^5) \quad (29)$$

where $\tau = \tanh H$. Baker²⁵ has shown that the Yang-Lee theorem implies that

$$F(\tau) = \int_0^\infty \frac{\tau d\mu(\omega)}{1+\tau^2\omega} = f_1\tau - f_2\tau^3 + \dots, \quad d\mu \geq 0, \quad (30)$$

i.e., $F(\tau)$ is τ times a series of Stieltjes. By standard theory²⁶, we must have

$$F(\tau) \geq \frac{f_1\tau}{1+f_3\tau^2/f_1}, \quad 0 \leq \tau \leq \infty. \quad (31)$$

If we choose,

$$\tau_s^2 = f_1/f_3, \quad (32)$$

since $\frac{\gamma^2\chi}{5H^2}$ is negative and dominates²⁷ χ , then we have, as $\tau_s \rightarrow 0$ for $\delta > 1$, by monotonicity of the magnetization in temperature,⁶

$$M(\tau_s) = M\tau_s^{1/\delta} \geq \nu(\tau_s) \geq \frac{1}{2} \chi^{3/2} \left(\frac{\gamma^2\chi}{5H^2} \right)^{1/2}, \quad (33)$$

which becomes,

$$\mu(T-T_c)^{\Delta/\delta} \geq \left[B_+^{3/2} / (2A_+^{1/2}) \right] (T-T_c)^{\Delta-\gamma} \quad (34)$$

or

$$\delta \geq \Delta / (\Delta - \gamma) . \quad (35)$$

This result is slightly stronger than the corresponding result of Gaunt and Baker⁵ because their result is for Δ_∞ , and this one is for Δ_4 . The subscripts refer to the order of the derivative with respect to H involved in the definition. The result with Δ_4 is stronger than that with Δ_∞ as²⁵ $\Delta_{2m+2} \geq \Delta_{2m}$.

We have reduced the theoretical study of the apparent failure of hyperscaling in $d = 3, 4$ dimensions to a study of (25) which is defined in terms of only one and two-point correlations rather than (28) which also involves 4-point correlations. Presumably one could as well study the single-temperature relation, which involves only one and two-point correlations

$$2 - \eta \leq d (\delta - 1) / (\delta + 1) \quad (36)$$

which is equivalent to (25) if eq. (7) holds, but we have not proven this further simplification.

The failure of critical index, relations between correlation functions involving a different number of points is expected²⁸ to introduce, minimally, an anomalous dimension of the vacuum, i.e., replace d by $d-\epsilon^*$ in (8), and suggests that the genesis of the breakdown of hyperscaling comes in local properties at spin separations $r \ll \xi$, rather than sums over the whole lattice.

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